



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 261**

February Session, 2016

\* SB00261HED 041316 \*

**AN ACT CONCERNING VETERANS SERVICES AT STATE COLLEGES  
AND UNIVERSITIES.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2016*) (a) The Board of Regents  
2 for Higher Education and the Board of Trustees for The University of  
3 Connecticut, as the case may be, shall establish at each constituent unit,  
4 as defined in section 10a-1 of the general statutes, an Operation  
5 Academic Support for Incoming Service Members (OASIS) center  
6 responsible for developing and offering programming and services  
7 focused on providing outreach and assistance to students who are  
8 veterans enrolled at such constituent unit.

9 (b) The Board of Regents for Higher Education and the Board of  
10 Trustees for The University of Connecticut, as the case may be, shall  
11 require that each constituent unit employ at least one dedicated full-  
12 time professional to staff the OASIS center at such constituent unit.  
13 Such professional shall have a demonstrated interest in the concerns of  
14 veterans and pursue opportunities for improving and increasing  
15 programming and services offered by such OASIS center.

16 (c) The Board of Regents for Higher Education and the Board of  
17 Trustees for The University of Connecticut shall adopt a plan for  
18 collaborating with each other and any veterans' service organization,

19 which plan shall include, but not be limited to, holding an annual  
20 conference for any staff of the OASIS center at each constituent unit to  
21 (1) share best practices for and identify challenges in serving the  
22 student population at each such constituent unit who are veterans, (2)  
23 discuss efforts for improved communication and coordination of  
24 efforts to so serve such population, and (3) develop and update, as the  
25 case may be, enhanced behavioral intervention training for any staff  
26 working directly with students who are veterans.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	<i>October 1, 2016</i>	New section
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**VA**            *Joint Favorable Subst.*

**HED**           *Joint Favorable*